



OFFICE OF
THE DIRECTOR

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UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY
WASHINGTON

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October 31, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Mr. Bromley Smith
Executive Secretary
National Security Council

Here are the six points I mentioned at the 6:00 p.m. meeting of the National Security Council Executive Committee, October 31, '62:

- 1) that the U. S. welcomes Khrushchev's agreement (and spells it out), in principle, but much remains to be done (our tone is one of cautious optimism);
- 2) that the removal of Soviet offensive missile bases in Cuba is of primary importance at this time;
- 3) that this has been a confrontation between the U. S. and Soviets. We have made some very cautious reference to Castro as Mr. Khrushchev's pawn.
- 4) that the American Republics strongly support our position, both by word and deed;
- 5) that the Rio treaty and other Inter-American agreements are in full force, and our position is in line with such agreements;
- 6) that the U. S. looks forward -- as indicated in the President's reply to Khrushchev -- to urgent action on disarmament and nuclear test ban negotiations.

In all our output, we have been careful to 1) avoid any speculation about the future of Cuba, and particularly to stay away from the inflammatory refugee approach; 2) avoid denunciatory anti-Communist materials that might upset the Russians at this particular point in time; 3) avoid gloating at the Russian backdown either in content or tone. We have attempted not to give the impression that we are underwriting the Castro regime.

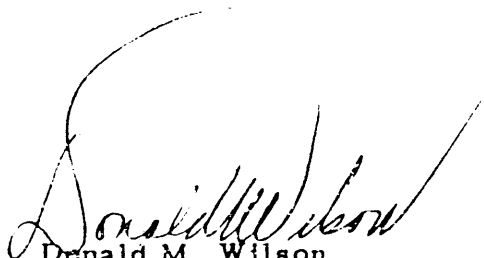
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Confirming my understanding of the President's instruction, he said to eliminate the pawn reference in point 3 and to play up heavily the role of the OAS.

We are following those instructions.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Donald M. Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Donald M. Wilson
Acting Director

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